

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 01683 011818Z

53

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 /061 W
----- 124430

P R 011720Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6864

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1683

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: SOMOZA'S VIEWS ON NEW HONDURAN GOVERNMENT

PRESIDENT SOMOZA HAS TOLD ME OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS THAT HE IS OF THE INITIAL OPINION THAT THE NEW HONDURAN CABINET IS EITHER CENTRIST OR RIGHT OF CENTER. HE KNOWS A NUMBER OF THE CABINET MINISTERS AND IS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTER GALVEZ. SOMOZA IS ALSO ACQUAINTED WITH COLONEL MELGAR, BUT IS OF THE GENERAL OPINION THAT MELGAR WILL PROBABLY NOT POSSESS REALLY SIGNIFICANT POWER AS CHIEF OF STATE. SOMOZA HAS SAID THAT THE IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE FUTURE OF HONDURAS IS THE POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL LEANINGS OF THE LIEUTENANT COLONELS. HE IS NOT PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH THEM, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF THE NICARAGUAN GUARDIA OFFICERS ARE AND THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT THEY WILL PROVE MORE NATIONALISTIC AND POSSIBLY A FEW OF THEM MAY HAVE SOME LEFTIST LEANINGS, BUT HE BELIEVES THAT THE MAJORITY WILL TEND TO FOLLOW A MIDDLE COURSE. HIS CONCERN REGARDING THE LIEUTENANT COLONELS IS THAT THEY HAVE HAD NO EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNMENT AND THEREFORE THERE MAY BE A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD DURING WHICH THEY ARE ACQUAINTING THEMSELVES

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 01683 011818Z

WITH THEIR NEW FOUND RESPONSIBILITIES.

SHELTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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